

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
AMARILLO DIVISION

VINCEN MENTEL,

Plaintiff,

v.

RICK ARMSTRONG,

Defendant.

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2:22-cv-32-Z-BR

**FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATION**  
**TO DISMISS § 1983 CLAIM**

Plaintiff Vincen Mentel tendered to this Court a handwritten pleading attempting to initiate a civil proceeding under 42 U.S.C. § 1983. (ECF 3). Plaintiff did not submit with his pleading any payment to satisfy the requisite fee, submit a certified trust fund account data sheet, or use the proper civil rights complaint form.

On December 5, 2022, the Court entered a Notice of Deficiency of the Complaint. (ECF 5). By that order, the Court temporarily granted Plaintiff permission to proceed *in forma pauperis* pending submission of a proper complaint form and certified *in forma pauperis* data sheet from the penal institution in which he is incarcerated or, alternatively, receipt of the \$402.00 filing fee. (*Id.* at 2). The Court ordered Plaintiff, within 30 days, to (1) submit the data sheet, (2) pay the filing fee to the United States District Clerk. (*Id.*). The Court warned that failure to do so would result in an immediate recommendation for the dismissal of the case without further notice. (*Id.* at 5).

As of this date, Plaintiff has not responded to the Order or attempted to communicate with the Court in any way. The Court has given Plaintiff ample opportunity to comply with its Order, yet Plaintiff has failed to follow the Court's direct orders. Rule 41(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil

Procedure allows a court to dismiss an action *sua sponte* for failure to prosecute or for failure to comply with the federal rules or any court order. *Larson v. Scott*, 157 F.3d 1030, 1031 (5th Cir. 1988); *see* Fed. R. Civ. P. 41. “This authority [under Rule 41(b)] flows from the court’s inherent power to control its docket and prevent undue delays in the disposition of pending cases.” *Boudwin v. Graystone Ins. Co.*, 756 F.2d 399, 401 (5th Cir. 1985) (citing *Link v. Wabash R.R. Co.*, 370 U.S. 626, 82 S. Ct. 1386 (1962)). The undersigned finds Plaintiff’s failure to comply with this Court’s September 15, 2022 Order warrants dismissal.

RECOMMENDATION

It is the RECOMMENDATION of the United States Magistrate Judge to the United States District Judge that the Complaint, (ECF 3), filed by Plaintiff Vincen Mentel be DISMISSED.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SERVICE

The United States District Clerk is directed to send a copy of this Findings, Conclusions and Recommendation to each party by the most efficient means available.

IT IS SO RECOMMENDED.

ENTERED February 3, 2023.

  
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LEE ANN RENO  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

**\* NOTICE OF RIGHT TO OBJECT \***

Any party may object to these proposed findings, conclusions and recommendation. In the event parties wish to object, they are hereby NOTIFIED that the deadline for filing objections is fourteen (14) days from the date of filing as indicated by the “entered” date directly above the signature line. Service is complete upon mailing, Fed. R. Civ. P. 5(b)(2)(C), or transmission by electronic means, Fed. R. Civ. P. 5(b)(2)(E). Any objections must be filed on or before the fourteenth (14th) day after this recommendation is filed as indicated by the “entered” date. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 636(b); Fed. R. Civ. P. 72(b)(2); *see also* Fed. R. Civ. P. 6(d).

Any such objections shall be made in a written pleading entitled “Objections to the Findings, Conclusions and Recommendation.” Objecting parties shall file the written objections

with the United States District Clerk and serve a copy of such objections on all other parties. A party's failure to timely file written objections shall bar an aggrieved party, except upon grounds of plain error, from attacking on appeal the unobjected-to proposed factual findings, legal conclusions, and recommendation set forth by the Magistrate Judge and accepted by the district court. *See Douglass v. United Servs. Auto. Ass'n*, 79 F.3d 1415, 1428–29 (5th Cir. 1996) (en banc), *superseded by statute on other grounds*, 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1), *as recognized in ACS Recovery Servs., Inc. v. Griffin*, 676 F.3d 512, 521 n.5 (5th Cir. 2012); *Rodriguez v. Bowen*, 857 F.2d 275, 276–77 (5th Cir. 1988).